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Summer Bulletin

The SIMPSON IRIS GARDENS

Glebe Road Livingstone Hts

CHERRYDALE VIRGINIA

AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE FINE IRIS ROOTS AT A LOW PRICE

Some of the ground now occupied by the varieties listed below is needed for other purposes, and this special offer is made to move a part of the stock as soon as possible.

The roots are of standard single-rhizome size, strong and healthy, and you will be delighted with them. They are very probably superior to many you have secured from other sources in the past.

| | Six | Twelve | | Six | Twelve |
|---|--------|--------|--|------|--------|
| AFTERGLOW—Pale lavender and yellow blend | \$1.25 | \$2.00 | MLLE. SCHWARTZ—Very pale lavender | 2.00 | 3.50 |
| ALBICANS—Early pure white | 1.00 | 1.50 | MA MIE—White, edged lavender | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| AMAS—Light blue and dark violet | 1.00 | 1.50 | MANDALAY—Pale violet | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| ANNA FARR—White, lightly bordered pale blue | 1.25 | 2.25 | MINNEHAHA—Cream and maroon | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| AUREA—Yellow; late bloomer | 1.25 | 2.00 | MOTHER OF PEARL—Mother-of-pearl tints | 2.00 | 3.25 |
| BARONET—Pale chicory blue | 1.00 | 1.50 | MRS. ALLAN GRAY—Light lavender pink | 1.00 | 1.75 |
| CATERINA—Bluish lavender | 1.25 | 2.00 | PARISIANA—Dotted purple on white | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| DAWN—Light cream | 1.25 | 2.00 | POWHATAN—Claret purple | 1.00 | 1.75 |
| DELICATISSIMA—Soft pink and lavender | 1.50 | 2.50 | PRINCESS VIC. LOUISE—Yellow and plum | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| EDOUARD MICHEL—Claret purple | 1.80 | 3.25 | PROSPER LAUGIER—the "brown" Iris | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| ELDORADO—Lavender, yellow, purple blend | 1.00 | 1.50 | QUAKER LADY—Soft blue and yellow blend | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| EMPIRE—Yellow; rather late | 1.25 | 2.25 | QUEEN ALEXANDRA—Lavender | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| FAIRY—White and pale blue | 1.25 | 2.00 | QUEEN CATERINA—Pale lavender | 1.75 | 3.00 |
| FENELLA—White; mid-season | 1.25 | 2.25 | RHEIN NIXE—White and purple | 1.25 | 2.00 |
| INNOCENZA—White; late bloomer | 1.25 | 2.00 | SHERWIN WRIGHT—Deep yellow | 1.25 | 1.75 |
| ISOLENE—Pink, yellow and lavender blend | 1.25 | 2.00 | SINDJKHA—Buff and lavender | 1.50 | 2.50 |
| JACQUESIANA—Deep copper maroon | 1.00 | 1.50 | STORM CLOUD—Grey and lavender | 1.25 | 2.00 |
| KOCHII—Rich black purple | 1.00 | 1.50 | SWATARA—Pinkish lavender | 1.00 | 1.75 |
| LEWIS TROWBRIDGE—Lavender; large | 1.25 | 2.00 | TIMUR—Dusky purple | 4.00 | 6.50 |
| LORELEY—Yellow and purple | 1.25 | 2.00 | TROJANA—Pale blue and purple | 1.00 | 1.75 |
| MME. CHOBOUT—Cream and apricot | 1.50 | 2.50 | WINDHAM—Soft rose pink | 1.00 | 1.50 |

TERMS: Cash with order, and no less than six of a variety will be sold at these prices. Postage paid to all states east of the Mississippi, except to points in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Wisconsin, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida; to help with the postage to these states, include 15c for every dozen ordered.

Customers in Southern states who prefer planting in September or October can order now and have the roots delivered at any date they name. The supply is limited so the advice is that you place your order as soon as possible. No discount can be given from the above prices whatever the size of the order.

The roots are equal to the best even at these reduced prices, and are only exceeded by the Simpson Garden super-size two-bud rhizomes; the prices of the latter are given in the general price list sent out in the spring; a copy of this will be mailed on request.

MICROSCOPIC SIZES

We grow no Iris roots at twelve for a dollar, nor any at twenty-five for the same figure. We haven't any desire to grow that kind! Ours are worth having and worth growing and require no microscope to see them.

In a late Bulletin (No. 33) of the American Iris Society, a large grower (Mr. Howard Weed) from the Pacific Coast details some of his experiences on an eastern trip, and this is extracted from his description of what he saw at a certain grower's:

"I found the latter had sold his entire stock to K——,* who had both men and women at work shipping Iris at twenty for two dollars. In my estimation this is all they were worth, for I should hate to have it said that such plants came from my gardens. Surely, one who purchases such rhizomes will be so discouraged that he will never buy again."

* A well-known large grower whom Mr. Weed mentions by name, but whom we do not care to give here.

VARIETIES THAT HAVE BEEN ON TRIAL

As a result of trials in the Simpson Gardens a short list is here given of certain Irises that we cannot recommend. While a risk is always present when one begins to make up a list of this kind, it is yet incumbent upon every grower to be discriminating as to varieties, for otherwise he injures both himself and his patrons. The American Iris Society has wisely led the way by publishing a list of some four hundred kinds recommended for discarding, and growers can also be of service by adding to or modifying such a list according to the experiences and judgments which the years bring with them.

Of course not every grower, Iris lover or gardener will agree in every case as to what is attractive or unattractive, and fortunately we do not have to! But, it is up to the grower, at least, to express now and then an opinion which should be as fair and as unbiased as he is capable of forming.

The list follows of those which after very fair trials will be dropped or else will not be listed as for sale. These trials, with some varieties, have lasted over as many as five or six years; with others, a trial of two years was convincing. Mainly, the reason in general is a lack of any distinguishing characteristics which would make them of real value in a discriminating garden, though poor form, poor growth, etc., also enter into the cases of some of these listed.

There are many others still on trial and it is hoped to publish the results from time to time.

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Azure | Mrs. Naegli |
| Barton Harrington | Neptune |
| Bashi Bazouk | Ophir Gold |
| Caprice | Patience |
| Catalosa | Phyllis Bliss |
| Cecil Minturne | Prosperity |
| Cleopatra | Rosalba |
| Gleam o' Gold | Ruby |
| Gracchus | Saul |
| Hermosa | Sherbert |
| Jacqueline | Silver Mist |
| Lurline | Tansy |
| Mady Carriere | Troades |
| Mid West | Tunisie |
| Mme. Janiaud | Turco |
| Mme. Durrand | Western Dream |
| Mrs. Chas. Pearson | |

Space does not permit of detailed reasons, but a few brief remarks as to some of the above may partly explain the list:

Barton Harrington:—Flammenschwert is better.

Caprice:—Edouard Michel is much superior.

Catalosa:—this approaches the ugly in Irises closer than any variety we have seen. Even the firm that introduced it no longer lists it.

Cecil Minturne:—the bloom has neither the shape nor size to commend it, tho some like it.

Mme. Durrand:—large, tall and very pretty—a soft pastel effect—but its growth is extremely poor, the stem is weak and its foliage almost zero in value.

Mrs. Naegli:—a white and worth nothing.

Ophir Gold and Tansy:—both yellows, from Colorado, where no doubt they do better; with us Tansy is a perfect failure and the other is not far behind.

Phyllis Bliss:—falls far short of being as good as Susan Bliss; there is no need for Phyllis in the garden.

Prosperity:—loose bloom, plant of a sprawling habit and color nothing extra.

Sherbert:—crooked and twisted stems.

There are many varieties seen in the different shows and in various gardens which do not appeal to discriminating growers and at another time we may have some remarks to make regarding some of them.

However, not all that we list are above some criticism or another; but the public demand enters into consideration and the grower carries some which otherwise he would not. For instance, the more we see of Leverrier the less we like it: large and tall, it is true, but with neither shape nor color to recommend it; yet some catalogs call it fine!

As to Peau Rouge, its color is rich and this alone carries it, for its growth is slow, its shape is poor and it is almost a dwarf.

Opera also grows very slowly with us, but its coloring is fine. Kashmiriana is of value to Iris breeders only and Trojana is now almost in the same category.

Jubilee, we cannot enthuse over, and another grower has said in his catalog that he could live very well without it.

But how many are beautiful, glorious, lovely or elegant! Scores and scores, hundreds even, with tints, hues, colors, unmatched by any other hardy perennial, though we may hunt the world over!

THE INTEREST ATTACHED TO THE GETTING OF NEW ONES.

Having gotten our thirty, forty or fifty varieties, don't let's run into the danger of closing our eyes to the many fine things that we do not possess, many of which have been introduced in the past few years, and which are also coming to us each year from the hands of active, earnest hybridizers. Those of us who get to be permanently satisfied with what we have in our gardens and who settle down to adding nothing new and to making no changes, will miss a lot of the pleasure and fun to be derived from making at least a few additions each year. Have you the fine red-purple, Moa, Cardinal, Morning Splendor, Arlington, George Tribolet, Tenebrae, Senatobia, Imperator? Or the beautiful blends, Asia, Mme. Cheri, Ambassadeur, Gamalia, Prospero? Or the fine white, Sophronia, or the other elegant varieties like Damozel, Dream, Montpelier, Seminole, Odaroloc, Loetitia

Michaud, Mme. Gaudichau, Crystalline, Belisaire, Evadne, True Charm or Kenmore?

Many an Iris lover has been thrown into a spell of enthusiasm on beholding for the first time fine clumps of the above new or comparatively new varieties.

Treat yourself to the pleasure of at least a few new kinds each year!

The American Home, of Garden City, Long Island, in a letter just lately sent to growers, says: "Forty per cent of our readers who answered a recent questionnaire designated the Iris as their favorite hardy perennial."

Orders of less than one dollar are respectfully declined.

THE SIMPSON SEEDLINGS

The date of introduction follows the name. "S" means the "Standards" or upright petals; "F" means the "Falls" or lower petals. "H. M." is used for "Honorable Mention" by the American Iris Society, which is the high and only award bestowed by the Society upon any seedling at the various exhibitions. Sizes of rhizomes are the usual high quality, Simpson Garden size, i.e., with two or more bloom buds.

Arlington (1924)—A distinctly bright, rich red-purple variety. Large blooms, good form, a fast grower, and a well-branched stalk, all go to make it a worth while acquisition. Conspicuous in any planting. The tall stalks, heavily laden with bloom, will sometimes bend over in trying seasons if the clumps are too large or if the soil is exhausted; this happens with other very large flowered varieties. 32-36 ins. high. \$1.50 each; three, \$3.25.

"Arlington bloomed fine for me and was better than Prospero" [a choice English variety].—Michigan.

"The outstanding bloom in my garden."—Tennessee.

"The general view of it is that it is an exceptionally fine, upstanding plant and a remarkably rich flower."—Massachusetts.

"Mr. C. and I decided that Arlington was the outstanding Iris in my garden, in its season. It bloomed wonderfully and I am glad to have something so fine."—Tennessee.

"An established clump of Arlington made a fine effect as the flowers were large, the stems of good height and the flowers a rich bi-color composition that is quite telling."—California.

Gamalia (1927)—S. dark ageratum violet; F. rich, dark reddish-purple, flushed amber at the base; style branches of the clearest amber. Standards erect and open. Enormous blooms on well-established plants and probably one of the largest varieties in the world; they are finely held on stout stems 30-34 ins. high.

H. M. by the A. I. S., Washington, 1924;—it was the largest bloom in that show. Growth moderate and sometimes takes two years to get established like most of the extremely large varieties. \$3.00 each; three, \$8.00.

Kenmore (1930)—S. and F. both a pale shade of mauve, with a touch of light buff in

the center of the bloom. The arched and overlapping standards with flaring falls, make it almost of a perfect shape. Bloom large, and the plant is a good grower. Height, 34 ins. A lovely coloring and particularly so in the soft light of the late afternoon. \$2.50 each; three, \$6.50.

Melrose (1926)—A large bi-color, both S. and F. being shades of lavender and purple. Finely shaped, and with better texture than most large Irises, showing no tendency to "flop" even in trying seasons. A thoroughly reliable bloomer, producing freely its large attractive flowers in all seasons, whether freaky or otherwise.

It is strongly believed that this is one of the best of the lavender bi-colors. Growth good; height 26-28 ins. 75c each; three, \$2.00.

"My little display consisted of Arlington, Melrose, Princess Beatrice, Queen Caterina and others with yellow Spanish Iris, yellow day lilies and Therese peonies. It was a dream and I had many compliments. Mr. X. says that Melrose easily rates 90."—Tennessee.

"The one flower stalk had five immense blooms—two of which withstood two days of intense heat with a scorching wind blowing continuously. We liked the bloom, the color, the texture and shape, and its endurance under trying conditions. It certainly attracted attention in my garden where I grow some two hundred varieties."—Illinois.

"Melrose bloomed for me for the first time and was surprised by its large size. It is as large as Simonne Vaissiere and is several shades darker. It is distinct and is A-1."—Minnesota.

Senatobia (1928)—S. dark violet; F. deep, dusky black-purple; large blooms of fine shape. If you care for dark Irises, you will like this, as practically all have who have seen it. The

great blackish buds abundantly filling the stalks are themselves a sight to see. There have been admirers of it who have actually "hovered" over it.

H. M. by the A. I. S., Washington, 1924;—Height 30-32 ins. Growth moderate. \$2.25 each; three, \$6.50.

Aphro June (1930)—A pure bright violet-pink self of fine shape, the falls having a white flush from the center to the haft. Introduced exactly for what it is, i.e., a smaller, lower-growing Aphrodite, excellent for the front of the border or wherever a good, bright, not tall, pink is desired. Always comes the same color whatever the season. An improvement over Mrs. Allan Gray. Height, 20 ins. \$1.50 each; three, \$3.25.

Crystalline (1930)—S. delicate blue-white; F. blue-lavender, edged with a border almost white, and widely flaring. Bloom large for the height of the stalk, and of exceptional texture. The coloring is "as clean and clear as a whistle," and in addition to this its extreme lateness of bloom, lasting until the very latest to go, gives it an unusual value. Ribbed foliage in place of the usual smooth effect, which is not unpleasing and which helps to give it distinction. Height 22 ins. It sold so well in 1929, even before naming, that only one root to a customer can be spared this season. Price \$1.50.

Elfin White (1928)—An improved Mrs. H. Darwin; slightly larger, but not too large, and with the whiteness of the well-known Frau Karl Druschki rose. Late bloomer. 14-16 ins. \$1.00 each; three, \$2.50.

Calebee (1925)—A rich medium-size plicata. S. lavender and white, with red-brown markings on the falls giving a decided bronze effect to the bloom. Good grower and a reliable bloomer. A very pretty effect with none of the washed-out colors that some of the plicatas suffer from. 24-26 ins. 60c each; three, \$1.50.

Garden Yellow (1930)—Both S. and F. bright golden yellow; small to medium size blooms, and though slightly lower than Shekinah, the color is much better. It proved so attractive to visitors the past two seasons that all available stock has been sold and no more can be disposed of until 1931. The price has been and will be \$1.50 each. Grows small rhizomes as do most of the yellows.

Montpelier (1928)—S. suffused light purple-blue; F. strongly veined and stippled with a deeper color on a white back ground. There is a style and dignity about this plicata which is lacking in most of its class; it is a variety especially for the connoisseur, and an Iris hybridizer with a national reputation picked it out as the one he liked best among a large number of other seedlings. Medium to large blooms of fine shape on 26 inch stalks. \$4.00 each; three, \$10.00.

Rozanna (1928)—A charming blend of pinkish-lilac fawn and yellow, which can generally be described as a lilac peaches-and-cream combination. Medium size blooms on 30 inch stalks. A dainty, attractive bloom. \$2.00 each; three, \$5.00.

Topazin (1926)—Both S. and F. a shade of coppery-yellow or buff-yellow, very unusual and attractive and

rich in coloring. Its beauty grows on you and it is richer than any clear yellow that we have seen. Medium sized blooms on 24-26 ins. stalks. H. M. by the A. I. S., Washington, 1926. Entire available stock controlled by Mrs. Louise K. Mindeff, Tompkinsville, Md., from whom it may be secured. Even in this past trying season it again demonstrated its value as a late-blooming variety holding its own with the very latest and the very best ones.

The Simpson seedlings can be classed as to size and season of blooming, as follows:

Sizes:

Small to medium—Rozanna, Garden Yellow, Elfin White.

Medium—Calebee, Topazin, Montpelier.

Large—Senatobia, Kenmore, Crystalline.

Very large—Arlington, Melrose, Gamalia.

Season:

Mid-season—Arlington, Calebee, Melrose, Gamalia.

Mid-season to late—Senatobia, Kenmore, Montpelier, Rozanna, Garden Yellow.

Very late—Topazin, Elfin White, Crystalline.

THE SUMMER CATALOG—circumstances beyond control prevented the publication of the intended catalog, and this Bulletin is printed instead. A Price List of all the varieties on sale by the Simpson Gardens, in quantities of from one to twelve of each, will be sent for the asking in case you haven't a copy.

DARK COLORED VARIETIES

Don't plant too many of them, but be sure to have some or quite a number according to the size of your garden. We have seen many a garden lacking in the fine contrasts which only the dark ones can give. Among the best of these are Alcazar, Amas, Archiveque, Arnols, Cardinal, Dusk, Gamalia, Geo. Tribolet, Hesperia, Jacquesiana, Kestrel, Kochii, L. A. Williamson, Mme. Gaudichau, Majestic, Moa, Morning Splendor, Ricardi Fonce, Senatobia, Tenebrae.

SOME EXTRA FINE VARIETIES

Strong single rhizomes.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| ASIA | Each \$1.50 |
| BALLERINE | Each .50 |
| CARDINAL | Each 6.00 |
| DAMOZEL | Each .75 |
| EVADNE | Each 2.00 |
| GEO. J. TRIBOLET | Each 1.75 |
| KESTREL | Each 2.50 |
| LOETITIA MICHAUD | Each 2.50 |
| MME. GAUDICHAU | Each .75 |
| MAJESTIC | Each 2.25 |
| MORNING SPLENDOR | Each 1.75 |
| ODAROC | Each 1.50 |
| PIONEER | Each 1.75 |
| SILVER RIBBON | Each 1.10 |
| SOPHRONIA | Each 2.00 |
| TENEBRAE | Each 2.25 |